

Message

From: Burke, NadiaHollan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9FF053AAF74C4A17A574A2A9A8C8B70D-NHOLLAN]
Sent: 8/22/2016 10:43:48 PM
To: Terry, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c02f0bbaadac4b5ab42c2d5bbcf20465-RTERRY03]
Subject: RE: please read !

Thanks it appears that USGS has conducted quite a bit of research and study already, along with EPA, NOAA, US Army Corps and US Navy. Hopefully someone will know who in our office might have worked with them.

<http://walrus.wr.usgs.gov/farallon/index.html>

<http://walrus.wr.usgs.gov/farallon/radwaste>

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From: Terry, Robert
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:18 PM
To: Burke, NadiaHollan <Burke.NadiaHollan@epa.gov>; Henning, Loren <Henning.Loren@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>
Cc: Herrera, Angeles <Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov>; LEE, LILY <LEE.LILY@EPA.GOV>
Subject: RE: please read !

This probably refers to the fact that back in the 1960s the federal government (I don't know which agency) disposed of barrels or radioactive waste (I don't know what physical form – I assume it was mixed with concrete & solidified) in the ocean in the vicinity of the Farallon Islands (I don't know how close).

So there's a lot of unknowns, but yes, it did happen.

From: Burke, NadiaHollan
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:58 PM
To: Henning, Loren <Henning.Loren@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>
Cc: Herrera, Angeles <Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov>; LEE, LILY <LEE.LILY@EPA.GOV>; Terry, Robert <Terry.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: please read !

Hi John and Loren—I just received the following email letter from a concerned student. Do either of you know who might be informed or involved with “47,800 barrels lost barrels that are full of radioactive material and polluting the Gulf of the Farallon National Marine Sanctuary”? I would like to forward this to the appropriate responder at EPA.

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From: Rosario Alvarez [<mailto:ralvarez6@horizon.csueastbay.edu>]

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:47 PM

To: Burke, NadiaHollan <Burke.NadiaHollan@epa.gov>

Subject: please read !

Hello Ms. Burke,

After debating on whether I should email you or not, I decided to. I hope that you may read my letter. I will anxiously await for a reply. I have decided to copy and paste a letter I was going to mail. I chose to email it because it is quicker.

Thank You,
Rosario Alvarez

Ms. Nadia Hollan Burke
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street, (SFD-8-1)
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August 12, 2016

Dear Ms. Burke,

The Bay Area has been the victim of warfare and the home to many naval bases, shipyards, weapons labs, and as well the location to nuclear dumping, as you probably already are aware of. Areas in which there is much of the left overs still currently present. Substances such as plutonium, radium, and cesium 137. Along with these types of chemicals there was also the dumping of 47,800 barrels containing toxic nuclear waste (Karl et al., 2009). According to Karl et al. (2009) their reports in the United States Geological Survey states, "47,800 containers of low-level radioactive waste--many of which now lie within the Sanctuary boundary--that were dumped in the ocean between 1946 and 1970". It has been recorded that the elements in these barrels are highly toxic and full of radioactive material. These materials are capable of contaminating and destabilizing ocean life and spreading onto the land where humans population is present. The areas of interest are Treasure Island, Hunters Point, and the Farallon Islands in San Francisco are the most known to be tainted.

I am aware that we cannot reverse the damage that began over a half a century ago overnight, but we can and must begin to be more ambitious to prevent this from affecting these areas by taking the appropriate action and protecting the ecosystem that ultimately will affect us and the food web. I am well informed and have read in an old San Francisco Examiners article from 1997 titled *Bay's Nuclear Leftovers*, your agency insist that these contaminated areas do not pose any "significant" threat (Kay & McCormick, 1997). On the other hand there is a publication (USGS) that there is insufficient evidence that the radioactive materials present are low enough not to pose any threat to humans or environment. A major concern pertains to the health and wellbeing of its residents. While these areas are currently active clean up areas, yet these areas are continuously expanding and due to the increase of the population.

The areas of Hunters Point, Treasure Island, and the Farallon Islands all fall under your jurisdiction of region nine. Therefore that is the reason I am addressing this concern to you. You have provided regulatory oversight of investigations, cleanup, and monitoring of hazardous waste/contamination for the past 19 years,

since September 1997. In addition, you have great experience towards developing innovative ways of treating water with contaminated with volatile compounds. It appears that you have a great passion in cleaning up our contaminated waters of the Bay Area. I hope that you may entertain the idea of locating the 47,800 barrels lost barrels that are full of radioactive material and polluting the Gulf of the Farallon National Marine Sanctuary along with our local coastal areas.

Thank you for your time,

Rosario Alvarez

Karl, H. A., Chin, J. L., Ueber, E., Stauffer, P. H., & Hendley, J. W. (2009). *Gulf of the Farallones Disposal Issues* (United States, United States Geological Survey, Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center). Reston, VA: U.S. Dept. of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey. <http://walrus.wr.usgs.gov/farallon/radwaste>

Kay, J., & McCormick, E. (1997, November 25). Bay's Nuclear Left Overs. *San Francisco Examiner*. Chin, J.L., & Ota, A.